

NOTICE: This is about a new Preferred Drug List (PDL) Medicaid (fee for service/non-managed care) is starting on June 8th.

The Department of Social Services (DSS) is sending you this notice to let you know that DSS is starting a Preferred Drug List (PDL) for Medicaid on **June 8th**. A PDL is a list of drugs that are covered by Medicaid and do not need approval from DSS. The PDL covers only some drug classes or categories.

The drugs that are on the PDL are “preferred” drugs. Drugs that are not on the list are “non-preferred.” If a drug is not on the list, it does not mean that you will not be able to keep taking that drug. It simply means that your doctor will need to get Prior Authorization (PA). Prior authorization means that your doctor will need to send in a form saying that you need a non-preferred drug.

If you are currently taking a non-preferred drug and have refills left, you will not need PA until you run out of refills and get a new prescription from your doctor. If you are currently taking a non-preferred drug, the Department sent your doctor and pharmacist a letter telling them about the PDL and asking your doctor to consider switching you to a preferred drug.

Here is an example of how the process will work the first time you need PA. If you have a prescription for a non-preferred drug and have 2 refills left, you will be able to fill those 2 refills without PA. Once those refills are used or when you get a new prescription from your doctor, your doctor will either need to obtain a PA for the non-preferred drug or change your medication to a preferred drug.

If a drug you are prescribed needs Prior Authorization, the Department will decide to approve or deny the request within 2 hours after your doctor requests PA. If a decision is not made within the 2-hour window, you can get a one-time five-day supply of the drug. You should call your doctor if you get a five-day supply. If your doctor wants you to keep taking the non-preferred drug, he or she should be getting PA. Once a PA is approved for a non-preferred drug, it is valid for **one year**. If PA is denied, you will get a notice of action and have a right to a DSS administrative hearing.

Again, the PDL now covers only certain drug classes, but other classes of drugs will be added in the future. The PDL will be reviewed every year and preferred drugs may change. As new classes of drugs are added to the PDL, your doctor and pharmacist will be told in advance.

Information on the PDL, including a list of preferred drugs, is available at www.ctmedicalprogram.com; information on PA is available at www.ctpharmacyprogram.com; or you can call the Department at 1-860-424-5150 if you have additional questions.